

## **U.S.** Department of Justice

United States Attorney Northern District of Illinois Western Division

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## TWO ROCKFORD GANG MEMBERS SENTENCED TO 21 YEARS AND 15 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON WITHOUT PAROLE ON FEDERAL DRUG AND GUN CHARGES

ROCKFORD -- PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ANDREW L. TRAVER, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; RICHARD MEYERS, Winnebago County Sheriff; and CHET EPPERSON, Chief of the Rockford Police Department, today made the following announcement:

Today, United States District Judge Philip G. Reinhard sentenced **STEVEN P. EASTER**, also known as "Little Steve", 23, of Rockford, Illinois, and **JAMAUL R. McKAY**, 20, of Chicago, Illinois, to federal prison for their roles in a conspiracy to distribute heroin and crack cocaine, as well as for possessing firearms in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Easter was sentenced to a total of 21 years in federal prison without parole (16 years for the drug conspiracy charge and 5 years for the firearms charge, to run consecutively), to be followed by 5 years of supervised release, and was ordered to pay a \$250 fine and a \$200 special assessment. McKay was sentenced to a total of 15 years in federal prison without parole (10 years for the drug conspiracy charge and 5 years for the firearms charge, to run consecutively), followed by 5 years of supervised release, and was ordered to pay a \$250 fine, and a \$200 special assessment.

Easter pled guilty on September 19, 2006, to the drug trafficking conspiracy and possessing a firearm in furtherance of the drug conspiracy as charged in the indictment. McKay pled guilty to the drug trafficking conspiracy and possessing a firearm in furtherance of the drug conspiracy on February 8, 2007. In pleading guilty, Easter and McKay admitted that between at least 2001 to September 13, 2005, they conspired with others to distribute more than one kilogram of heroin, and more than 50 grams of cocaine base ("crack") in Rockford, Loves Park, and Chicago. According to Easter's plea agreement, Darrell "Duck" Davis controlled the drug trafficking activities of the Titanic Stones street gang in Rockford, also known as The Brothers. Beginning in 2001, Davis recruited several Titanic Stones gang members from Chicago to come to Rockford to assist in the sale of heroin and crack cocaine. Members of the gang, including Steven Easter, arranged for houses to be rented in other person's names, usually females associated with a gang member, then used those houses as distribution centers for the sale of the drugs. Many of the drug houses were fortified with barrel bolts, steel brackets, and 2" x 4" boards on the doors which made it more difficult for rival gangs and/or the police to enter. The Titanic Stones gang members used Nextel cell phones with a walkie talkie feature to discuss drug trafficking, using terms such as "cereal," "happy meal," and "demo" to refer to drugs. The plea agreement further states the gang used firearms to protect their drugs, money, and drug houses from rival drug dealers and rival gangs.

According to the plea agreement, during the course of the conspiracy, several Titanic Stones gang members were involved in shootings with rival drug dealers and gangs.

Easter and McKay were the third and fourth defendants to be sentenced out of a total of 16 individuals charged in the conspiracy. On December 8, 2006, **CAMERON P. LEMON**, 25, formerly of Chicago, was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison without parole for conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine. On February 8, 2007, **SYLVIA M. DAVENPORT**, 27, formerly of Rockford, was sentenced to 70 months in federal prison without parole for conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine. Eleven other defendants are scheduled to be sentenced, as follows:

**DARRELL D. DAVIS**, also known as "Duck," 27, 536 Lawn Drive, Loves Park, Illinois, pled guilty on November 14, 2006, to conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine, as well as to possessing a firearm in furtherance of the drug conspiracy. Davis is scheduled to be sentenced on July 13, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**AMBROSE L. JONES**, also known as "Brose," 25, 1832 N. Main Street, Rockford, Illinois, pled guilty on September 13, 2006, to conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine, as well as to possessing a firearm in furtherance of the drug conspiracy. Jones is scheduled to be sentenced on August 3, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**ANTHONY K. GLOVER**, also known as "Bones," 24, 1420 12th Street, Rockford, Illinois, pled guilty on April 27, 2007, to conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine, as well as to possessing a firearm in furtherance of the drug conspiracy. Glover is scheduled to be sentenced on August 24, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**MONTRELL McSWAIN**, also known as "Trell," 26, Loves Park, Illinois, was found guilty on May 23, 2007 after a jury trial of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine, as well as to possessing a firearm in furtherance of the drug conspiracy. McSwain is scheduled to be sentenced on September 14, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**DUPREE L. TURNER**, also known as "Joe," "Joey," and "Duke," 22, 5023 Champlain Street, Chicago, Illinois, pled guilty on October 6, 2006, to conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine, as well as to possessing a firearm in furtherance of the drug conspiracy. Turner is scheduled to be sentenced on August 3, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**BOBBY L. HARRIS**, also known as "David," and "B.O.," 22,7851 S. Marshfield, Chicago, Illinois, pled guilty on September 13, 2006, to conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine, as well as to possessing a firearm in furtherance of the drug conspiracy. Harris is scheduled to be sentenced on July 27, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**BRADFORD V. DODSON**, also known as "Brad" and "Hustler," 26, Rockford, Illinois, was found guilty on May 23, 2007 after a jury trial of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine, as well as three counts of possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Dodson is scheduled to be sentenced on October 18, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**FLOYD R. MURRAY**, 22, 6937 South Harper, Chicago, Illinois, pled guilty on August 25, 2006, to conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and crack cocaine. Murray is scheduled to be sentenced on July 27, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**JAMEAH M. FLINT**, 23, 1534 Chestnut Street, Rockford, Illinois, pled guilty on May 9, 2007, to aiding and abetting the drug trafficking conspiracy. Flint is scheduled to be sentenced on September 6, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. She is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**CLINTON W. ALLEN**, also known as "Clint," 42, 818 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Rockford, Illinois pled guilty on September 21, 2006, to aiding and abetting the drug trafficking conspiracy. Allen is scheduled to be sentenced on August 3, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. He is being held in federal custody without bail pending sentencing.

**LEE S. ALLEN**, 41, 3434 Edvera Drive, Rockford, Illinois, was found guilty on May 23, 2007 after a jury trial of aiding and abetting the drug trafficking conspiracy. Allen is scheduled to be sentenced on October 16, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. Allen remains on bond pending sentencing.

The remaining defendant, Joel Turner, Jr., is facing first degree murder charges in Winnebago County Circuit Court, and has not appeared in federal court on these charges.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, & Explosives, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Rockford Police Department, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department, and the Rockford-Winnebago County Metro Narcotics Unit. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorneys Michael F. Iasparro and Mark T. Karner.

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